

United States Bankruptcy Court Northern District of Illinois		Voluntary Petition																							
Name of Debtor (if individual, enter Last, First, Middle): Schmidtke, William		Name of Joint Debtor (Spouse) (Last, First, Middle):																							
All Other Names used by the Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):		All Other Names used by the Joint Debtor in the last 8 years (include married, maiden, and trade names):																							
Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN)/Complete EIN (if more than one, state all) xxx-xx-9077		Last four digits of Soc. Sec. or Individual-Taxpayer I.D. (ITIN) No./Complete EIN (if more than one, state all)																							
Street Address of Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State): 17959 Ashland Ave Homewood, IL		Street Address of Joint Debtor (No. and Street, City, and State):																							
		ZIP Code																							
County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business: Cook		County of Residence or of the Principal Place of Business:																							
Mailing Address of Debtor (if different from street address):		Mailing Address of Joint Debtor (if different from street address):																							
		ZIP Code																							
Location of Principal Assets of Business Debtor (if different from street address above):																									
Type of Debtor (Form of Organization) (Check one box)		Nature of Business (Check one box)		Chapter of Bankruptcy Code Under Which the Petition is Filed (Check one box)																					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual (includes Joint Debtors) <i>See Exhibit D on page 2 of this form.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation (includes LLC and LLP) <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Other (If debtor is not one of the above entities, check this box and state type of entity below.)		<input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Business <input type="checkbox"/> Single Asset Real Estate as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101 (51B) <input type="checkbox"/> Railroad <input type="checkbox"/> Stockbroker <input type="checkbox"/> Commodity Broker <input type="checkbox"/> Clearing Bank <input type="checkbox"/> Other		<input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 12 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chapter 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Main Proceeding <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 15 Petition for Recognition of a Foreign Nonmain Proceeding																					
Chapter 15 Debtors Country of debtor's center of main interests: Each country in which a foreign proceeding by, regarding, or against debtor is pending:		TAX-EXEMPT ENTITY (Check box, if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a tax-exempt organization under Title 26 of the United States Code (the Internal Revenue Code).		Nature of Debts (Check one box) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debts are primarily consumer debts, defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(8) as "incurred by an individual primarily for a personal, family, or household purpose." <input type="checkbox"/> Debts are primarily business debts.																					
Filing Fee (Check one box)		Check one box: <input type="checkbox"/> Full Filing Fee attached <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee to be paid in installments (applicable to individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration certifying that the debtor is unable to pay fee except in installments. Rule 1006(b). See Official Form 3A. <input type="checkbox"/> Filing Fee waiver requested (applicable to chapter 7 individuals only). Must attach signed application for the court's consideration. See Official Form 3B.		Chapter 11 Debtors Check if: <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is not a small business debtor as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 101(51D). Check all applicable boxes: <input type="checkbox"/> A plan is being filed with this petition. <input type="checkbox"/> Acceptances of the plan were solicited prepetition from one or more classes of creditors, in accordance with 11 U.S.C. § 1126(b).																					
Statistical/Administrative Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that funds will be available for distribution to unsecured creditors. <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor estimates that, after any exempt property is excluded and administrative expenses paid, there will be no funds available for distribution to unsecured creditors. 					THIS SPACE IS FOR COURT USE ONLY																				
Estimated Number of Creditors <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-49</td> <td>50-99</td> <td>100-199</td> <td>200-999</td> <td>1,000-5,000</td> <td>5,001-10,000</td> <td>10,001-25,000</td> <td>25,001-50,000</td> <td>50,001-100,000</td> <td>OVER 100,000</td> </tr> </table>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1-49	50-99	100-199	200-999	1,000-5,000	5,001-10,000	10,001-25,000	25,001-50,000	50,001-100,000	OVER 100,000	
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Estimated Assets <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0 to \$50,000</td> <td>\$50,001 to \$100,000</td> <td>\$100,001 to \$500,000</td> <td>\$500,001 to \$1 million</td> <td>\$1,000,001 to \$10 million</td> <td>\$10,000,001 to \$50 million</td> <td>\$50,000,001 to \$100 million</td> <td>\$100,000,001 to \$500 million</td> <td>\$500,000,001 to \$1 billion</td> <td>More than \$1 billion</td> </tr> </table>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0 to \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$500,000	\$500,001 to \$1 million	\$1,000,001 to \$10 million	\$10,000,001 to \$50 million	\$50,000,001 to \$100 million	\$100,000,001 to \$500 million	\$500,000,001 to \$1 billion	More than \$1 billion	
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Estimated Liabilities <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0 to \$50,000</td> <td>\$50,001 to \$100,000</td> <td>\$100,001 to \$500,000</td> <td>\$500,001 to \$1 million</td> <td>\$1,000,001 to \$10 million</td> <td>\$10,000,001 to \$50 million</td> <td>\$50,000,001 to \$100 million</td> <td>\$100,000,001 to \$500 million</td> <td>\$500,000,001 to \$1 billion</td> <td>More than \$1 billion</td> </tr> </table>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0 to \$50,000	\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$100,001 to \$500,000	\$500,001 to \$1 million	\$1,000,001 to \$10 million	\$10,000,001 to \$50 million	\$50,000,001 to \$100 million	\$100,000,001 to \$500 million	\$500,000,001 to \$1 billion	More than \$1 billion	
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Voluntary Petition <i>(This page must be completed and filed in every case)</i>		Name of Debtor(s): Schmidtke, William
All Prior Bankruptcy Cases Filed Within Last 8 Years (If more than two, attach additional sheet)		
Location Where Filed: - None -	Case Number:	Date Filed:
Location Where Filed:	Case Number:	Date Filed:
Pending Bankruptcy Case Filed by any Spouse, Partner, or Affiliate of this Debtor (If more than one, attach additional sheet)		
Name of Debtor: - None -	Case Number:	Date Filed:
District:	Relationship:	Judge:
Exhibit A		Exhibit B (To be completed if debtor is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts.) I, the attorney for the petitioner named in the foregoing petition, declare that I have informed the petitioner that [he or she] may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, and have explained the relief available under each such chapter. I further certify that I delivered to the debtor the notice required by 11 U.S.C. §342(b).
<input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit A is attached and made a part of this petition.		X /s/ Courtney A. Morso, Associate May 18, 2015 Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s) (Date) Courtney A. Morso, Associate
Exhibit C Does the debtor own or have possession of any property that poses or is alleged to pose a threat of imminent and identifiable harm to public health or safety?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, and Exhibit C is attached and made a part of this petition. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.		
Exhibit D (To be completed by every individual debtor. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and attach a separate Exhibit D.)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D completed and signed by the debtor is attached and made a part of this petition.		
If this is a joint petition: <input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit D also completed and signed by the joint debtor is attached and made a part of this petition.		
Information Regarding the Debtor - Venue (Check any applicable box)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debtor has been domiciled or has had a residence, principal place of business, or principal assets in this District for 180 days immediately preceding the date of this petition or for a longer part of such 180 days than in any other District. <input type="checkbox"/> There is a bankruptcy case concerning debtor's affiliate, general partner, or partnership pending in this District. <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor is a debtor in a foreign proceeding and has its principal place of business or principal assets in the United States in this District, or has no principal place of business or assets in the United States but is a defendant in an action or proceeding [in a federal or state court] in this District, or the interests of the parties will be served in regard to the relief sought in this District.		
Certification by a Debtor Who Resides as a Tenant of Residential Property (Check all applicable boxes)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Landlord has a judgment against the debtor for possession of debtor's residence. (If box checked, complete the following.)		
<hr/> (Name of landlord that obtained judgment)		
<hr/> (Address of landlord)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Debtor claims that under applicable nonbankruptcy law, there are circumstances under which the debtor would be permitted to cure the entire monetary default that gave rise to the judgment for possession, after the judgment for possession was entered, and <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor has included with this petition the deposit with the court of any rent that would become due during the 30-day period after the filing of the petition. <input type="checkbox"/> Debtor certifies that he/she has served the Landlord with this certification. (11 U.S.C. § 362(l)).		

B1 (Official Form 1)(04/13)

Voluntary Petition

(This page must be completed and filed in every case)

Signature(s) of Debtor(s) (Individual/Joint)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct.
 [If petitioner is an individual whose debts are primarily consumer debts and has chosen to file under chapter 7] I am aware that I may proceed under chapter 7, 11, 12, or 13 of title 11, United States Code, understand the relief available under each such chapter, and choose to proceed under chapter 7.
 [If no attorney represents me and no bankruptcy petition preparer signs the petition] I have obtained and read the notice required by 11 U.S.C. §342(b).

I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

X /s/ William SchmidtkeSignature of Debtor **William Schmidtke****X**

Signature of Joint Debtor

Telephone Number (If not represented by attorney)

May 18, 2015

Date

Signature of Attorney***X /s/ Courtney A. Morso, Associate**

Signature of Attorney for Debtor(s)

Courtney A. Morso, Associate Schaller Law Firm PC

Printed Name of Attorney for Debtor(s)

Schaller Law Firm, P.C.

Firm Name

Oak Brook Pointe
700 Commerce Drive, Suite 500
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Address

630-655-1233

Telephone Number

May 18, 2015

Date

*In a case in which § 707(b)(4)(D) applies, this signature also constitutes a certification that the attorney has no knowledge after an inquiry that the information in the schedules is incorrect.

Signature of Debtor (Corporation/Partnership)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, and that I have been authorized to file this petition on behalf of the debtor.

The debtor requests relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11, United States Code, specified in this petition.

X

Signature of Authorized Individual

Printed Name of Authorized Individual

Title of Authorized Individual

Date

Name of Debtor(s):
Schmidtke, William**Signatures****Signature of a Foreign Representative**

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information provided in this petition is true and correct, that I am the foreign representative of a debtor in a foreign proceeding, and that I am authorized to file this petition.

(Check only one box.)

- I request relief in accordance with chapter 15 of title 11, United States Code. Certified copies of the documents required by 11 U.S.C. §1515 are attached.
- Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §1511, I request relief in accordance with the chapter of title 11 specified in this petition. A certified copy of the order granting recognition of the foreign main proceeding is attached.

X

Signature of Foreign Representative

Printed Name of Foreign Representative

Date

Signature of Non-Attorney Bankruptcy Petition Preparer

I declare under penalty of perjury that: (1) I am a bankruptcy petition preparer as defined in 11 U.S.C. § 110; (2) I prepared this document for compensation and have provided the debtor with a copy of this document and the notices and information required under 11 U.S.C. §§ 110(b), 110(h), and 342(b); and, (3) if rules or guidelines have been promulgated pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 110(h) setting a maximum fee for services chargeable by bankruptcy petition preparers, I have given the debtor notice of the maximum amount before preparing any document for filing for a debtor or accepting any fee from the debtor, as required in that section. Official Form 19 is attached.

Printed Name and title, if any, of Bankruptcy Petition Preparer

Social-Security number (If the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual, state the Social Security number of the officer, principal, responsible person or partner of the bankruptcy petition preparer.)(Required by 11 U.S.C. § 110.)

Address

X

Date

Signature of bankruptcy petition preparer or officer, principal, responsible person,or partner whose Social Security number is provided above.

Names and Social-Security numbers of all other individuals who prepared or assisted in preparing this document unless the bankruptcy petition preparer is not an individual:

If more than one person prepared this document, attach additional sheets conforming to the appropriate official form for each person.

A bankruptcy petition preparer's failure to comply with the provisions of title 11 and the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure may result in fines or imprisonment or both. 11 U.S.C. §110; 18 U.S.C. §156.

In re ..

Debtor(s)

Case No. _____

FORM 1. VOLUNTARY PETITION
Attachment A

DEBTOR(S)' REPRESENTATIONS & RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Debtor understands that it is Debtor's responsibility to promptly tender a security deposit to all utility companies.
2. Debtor understands that it is Debtor's responsibility to provide copies of the 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011 federal tax returns. Debtor has agreed to tender these tax returns to debtor's counsel by Federal Express no later than 10 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors (Section 341 meeting). Debtor has agreed to tender these tax returns directly to the Chapter 13 Trustee by Federal Express no later than 7 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors (Section 341 meeting), unless said tax returns were Federal Expressed to debtor's counsel no later than 10 days before the Section 341 meeting. Debtor understands further that the court could dismiss the case if the tax returns are not tendered on a timely basis.
3. Debtor understands that it is Debtor's responsibility to provide copies of (a) all payment advices or other evidence of income received within 60 days before the date of the filing of the bankruptcy petition by the debtor from any employer of the debtor, and (b) proof of any 1099 or self employed income within 60 days before the date of the filing of the petition (hereinafter, collectively the "Payment Advices"). Said Payment Advices shall be provided to the trustee (or, if no trustee has been appointed to the United States trustee), and to any creditor who timely requests copies of the payment advices or other evidence of payment, at least seven days before the time of the meeting of creditors conducted pursuant to 11 U.S.C. Section 341. Debtor has agreed to tender said Payment Advices to debtor's counsel by Federal Express no later than 10 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors (Section 341 meeting). Debtor has agreed to tender said Payment Advices directly to the Chapter 13 Trustee and any requesting creditor by Federal Express no later than 7 days before the date first set for the first meeting of creditors (Section 341 meeting), unless said Payment Advices were Federal Expressed to debtor's counsel no later than 10 days before the Section 341 meeting. Debtor understands further that the court could dismiss the case if said Payment Advices are not tendered on a timely basis.
4. Debtor understands that it is Debtor's responsibility to complete an instructional course concerning personal financial management before the conclusion of the repayment plan. After completion of the instructional course, Debtor has agreed to tender a certificate of completion to debtor's counsel by Federal Express. Debtor has also agreed to file the certificate of completion with the Clerk of the US Bankruptcy Court at 219 S. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60604, unless a copy of said certificate is tendered to debtor's counsel via email or Federal Express and received at least 7 days prior to the case being closed. Debtor understands further that no discharge will be granted without the filing of said certificate of completion with the Clerk of the US Bankruptcy Court on a timely basis.
5. Debtor understands that prior to the final Chapter 13 plan payment debtor must complete and tender to debtor's counsel a "Declaration re Domestic Support Obligations" certifying that either (a) "During the pendency of this bankruptcy, I have not been required to pay a domestic support obligation by any order of a court or administrative agency or by any statute", or (b) "During the pendency of this bankruptcy case, I have paid all domestic support obligations that have become due under any order of a court, or administrative agency or under any statute. Debtor further understands that this declaration must be signed under penalty of perjury. Finally, debtor has been advised that the failure to complete and file said declaration would result in debtor not receiving a Chapter 13 discharge of debts.

B 1D (Official Form 1, Exhibit D) (12/09)

**United States Bankruptcy Court
Northern District of Illinois**

In re William Schmidtke

Debtor(s)

Case No.
Chapter

13

**EXHIBIT D - INDIVIDUAL DEBTOR'S STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH
CREDIT COUNSELING REQUIREMENT**

Warning: You must be able to check truthfully one of the five statements regarding credit counseling listed below. If you cannot do so, you are not eligible to file a bankruptcy case, and the court can dismiss any case you do file. If that happens, you will lose whatever filing fee you paid, and your creditors will be able to resume collection activities against you. If your case is dismissed and you file another bankruptcy case later, you may be required to pay a second filing fee and you may have to take extra steps to stop creditors' collection activities.

Every individual debtor must file this Exhibit D. If a joint petition is filed, each spouse must complete and file a separate Exhibit D. Check one of the five statements below and attach any documents as directed.

1. Within the 180 days **before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, and I have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. *Attach a copy of the certificate and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency.*

2. Within the 180 days **before the filing of my bankruptcy case**, I received a briefing from a credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator that outlined the opportunities for available credit counseling and assisted me in performing a related budget analysis, but I do not have a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to me. *You must file a copy of a certificate from the agency describing the services provided to you and a copy of any debt repayment plan developed through the agency no later than 14 days after your bankruptcy case is filed.*

3. I certify that I requested credit counseling services from an approved agency but was unable to obtain the services during the seven days from the time I made my request, and the following exigent circumstances merit a temporary waiver of the credit counseling requirement so I can file my bankruptcy case now. *[Summarize exigent circumstances here.]* _____

If your certification is satisfactory to the court, you must still obtain the credit counseling briefing within the first 30 days after you file your bankruptcy petition and promptly file a certificate from the agency that provided the counseling, together with a copy of any debt management plan developed through the agency. Failure to fulfill these requirements may result in dismissal of your case. Any extension of the 30-day deadline can be granted only for cause and is limited to a maximum of 15 days. Your case may also be dismissed if the court is not satisfied with your reasons for filing your bankruptcy case without first receiving a credit counseling briefing.

4. I am not required to receive a credit counseling briefing because of: *[Check the applicable statement.] [Must be accompanied by a motion for determination by the court.]*

B 1D (Official Form 1, Exhibit D) (12/09) - Cont.

Page 2

Incapacity. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as impaired by reason of mental illness or mental deficiency so as to be incapable of realizing and making rational decisions with respect to financial responsibilities.);

Disability. (Defined in 11 U.S.C. § 109(h)(4) as physically impaired to the extent of being unable, after reasonable effort, to participate in a credit counseling briefing in person, by telephone, or through the Internet.);

Active military duty in a military combat zone.

5. The United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator has determined that the credit counseling requirement of 11 U.S.C. § 109(h) does not apply in this district.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information provided above is true and correct.

Signature of Debtor: /s/ William Schmidtke
William Schmidtke

Date: May 18, 2015

Certificate Number: 16199-ILN-CC-025562213



16199-ILN-CC-025562213

CERTIFICATE OF COUNSELING

I CERTIFY that on May 18, 2015, at 1:04 o'clock PM EDT, William Schmidtke received from CC Advising, Inc., an agency approved pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 111 to provide credit counseling in the Northern District of Illinois, an individual [or group] briefing that complied with the provisions of 11 U.S.C. §§ 109(h) and 111.

A debt repayment plan was not prepared. If a debt repayment plan was prepared, a copy of the debt repayment plan is attached to this certificate.

This counseling session was conducted by internet.

Date: May 18, 2015 By: /s/Ryan McDonough for Kayley Yancer

Name: Kayley Yancer

Title: Credit Counselor

* Individuals who wish to file a bankruptcy case under title 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code are required to file with the United States Bankruptcy Court a completed certificate of counseling from the nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency that provided the individual the counseling services and a copy of the debt repayment plan, if any, developed through the credit counseling agency. See 11 U.S.C. §§ 109(h) and 521(b).

United States Bankruptcy Court
Northern District of Illinois

In re William Schmidtke

Debtor(s)

Case No.
Chapter

13

DISCLOSURE OF COMPENSATION OF ATTORNEY FOR DEBTOR(S)

1. Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 329(a) and Bankruptcy Rule 2016(b), I certify that I am the attorney for the above-named debtor and that compensation paid to me within one year before the filing of the petition in bankruptcy, or agreed to be paid to me, for services rendered or to be rendered on behalf of the debtor(s) in contemplation of or in connection with the bankruptcy case is as follows:

For legal services, I have agreed to accept	\$ <u>4,000.00</u>
Prior to the filing of this statement I have received	\$ <u>1,500.00</u>
Balance Due	\$ <u>2,500.00</u>

2. The source of the compensation paid to me was:

Debtor Other (specify):

3. The source of compensation to be paid to me is:

Debtor Other (specify): **chapter 13 trustee**

4. I have not agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation with any other person unless they are members and associates of my law firm.
 I have agreed to share the above-disclosed compensation with a person or persons who are not members or associates of my law firm. A copy of the agreement, together with a list of the names of the people sharing in the compensation is attached.

5. In return for the above-disclosed fee, I have agreed to render legal service for all aspects of the bankruptcy case, including:

- a. Preparation and filing of any petition, schedules, statement of affairs and plan which may be required;
- b. Representation of the debtor at the meeting of creditors and confirmation hearing, and any adjourned hearings thereof;
- c. [Other provisions as needed]

all items identified in the engagement letter and/or the court-approved retention agreement.

6. By agreement with the debtor(s), the above-disclosed fee does not include the following service:

excludes all items not specifically included in the engagement letter and/or court-approved retention agreement.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing is a complete statement of any agreement or arrangement for payment to me for representation of the debtor(s) in this bankruptcy proceeding.

Dated: May 18, 2015

/s/ Courtney A. Morso, Associate
Courtney A. Morso, Associate
Schaller Law Firm, P.C.
Oak Brook Pointe
700 Commerce Drive, Suite 500
Oak Brook, IL 60523
630-655-1233

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CHAPTER 13 DEBTORS AND THEIR ATTORNEYS
(Court-Approved Retention Agreement, revised as of 4/20/15)**

Chapter 13 gives debtors important rights, such as the right to keep property that could otherwise be lost through repossession or foreclosure—but Chapter 13 also puts burdens on debtors, such as the burden of making complete and truthful disclosures of their financial situation. It is important for debtors who file a Chapter 13 bankruptcy case to understand their rights and responsibilities in bankruptcy. In this connection, the advice of an attorney is often crucial. Debtors are entitled to certain services from by their attorneys, but debtors also have responsibilities to their attorneys. In order to assure that debtors and their attorneys understand their rights and responsibilities in the Chapter 13 process, the judges of the Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois have approved this agreement, setting out the rights and responsibilities of both debtors in Chapter 13 and their attorneys, including how their attorneys will be paid for their services in the Chapter 13 case. By signing this agreement, debtors and their attorneys accept these responsibilities.

The Bankruptcy Code may require a debtor's attorney to provide the debtor with certain documents and agreements at the start of the representation. The terms of this court-approved agreement take the place of any conflicting provision in an earlier agreement. This agreement cannot be modified in any way by other agreements. Any provision of another agreement between the debtors and the attorney that conflicts with this agreement is void.

A. BEFORE THE CASE IS FILED

THE DEBTOR AGREES TO:

1. Discuss with the attorney the debtor's objectives in filing the case.
2. Provide the attorney with full, accurate and timely information, financial and otherwise, including properly documented proof of income.

THE ATTORNEY AGREES TO:

1. Personally counsel the debtor regarding the advisability of filing either a Chapter 13 or a Chapter 7 case, discuss both procedures (as well as non-bankruptcy options) with the debtor, and answer the debtor's questions.
2. Personally explain to the debtor that the attorney is being engaged to represent the debtor on all matters arising in the case, as required by Local Bankruptcy rule, and explain how and when the attorney's fees and the trustee's fees are determined and paid.
3. Personally review with the debtor and sign the completed petition, plan, statements, and schedules, as well as all amendments thereto, whether filed with the petition or later. (The schedules may be initially prepared with the help of clerical or paralegal staff of the attorney's office, but personal attention of the attorney is required for the review and signing.)
4. Timely prepare and file the debtor's petition, plan, statements, and schedules.

5. Explain to the debtor how, when, and where to make all necessary payments, including both payments that must be made directly to creditors and payments that must be made to the Chapter 13 trustee, with particular attention to housing and vehicle payments.
6. Advise the debtor of the need to maintain appropriate insurance.

B. AFTER THE CASE IS FILED

THE DEBTOR AGREES TO:

1. Make the required payments to the trustee and to whatever creditors are being paid directly, or, if required payments cannot be made, to notify the attorney immediately.
2. Appear punctually at the meeting of creditors (also called the "341 meeting") with recent proof of income and a picture identification card. (If the identification card does not include the debtor's social security number, the debtor must also bring to the meeting a social security card.) The debtor must be present in time for check-in and when the case is called for the actual examination.
3. Notify the attorney of any change in the debtor's address or telephone number.
4. Inform the attorney of any wage garnishments or liens or levies on assets that occur or continue after the filing of the case.
5. Contact the attorney immediately if the debtor loses employment, has a significant change in income, or experiences any other significant change in financial situation (such as serious illness, marriage, divorce or separation, lottery winnings, or an inheritance).
6. Notify the attorney if the debtor is sued or wishes to file a lawsuit (including divorce).
7. Inform the attorney if any tax refunds to which the debtor is entitled are seized or not received when due from the IRS or Illinois Department of Revenue.
8. Contact the attorney before buying, refinancing, or selling real property, and before entering into any loan agreement.
9. Supply the attorney with copies of all tax returns filed while the case is pending.

THE ATTORNEY AGREES TO:

1. Advise the debtor of the requirement to attend the meeting of creditors, and notify the debtor of the date, time, and place of the meeting.
2. Inform the debtor that the debtor must be punctual and, in the case of a joint filing, that both spouses must appear at the same meeting.
3. Provide knowledgeable legal representation for the debtor at the meeting of creditors (in time for check-in and the actual examination) and, unless excused by the trustee, for the confirmation hearing.
4. If the attorney will be employing another attorney to attend the 341 meeting or any court hearing, personally explain to the debtor in advance, the role and identity of the other attorney and provide the other attorney with the file in sufficient time to review it and properly represent the debtor.

5. Timely submit to the Chapter 13 trustee properly documented proof of income for the debtor, *including business reports for self-employed debtors.*
6. Timely respond to objections to plan confirmation and, where necessary, prepare, file, and serve an amended plan.
7. Timely prepare, file, and serve any necessary statements, amended statements and schedules and any change of address, in accordance with information provided by the debtor.
8. Monitor all incoming case information (including, but not limited to, Order Confirming Plan, Notice of Intent to Pay Claims, and 6-month status reports) for accuracy and completeness. Contact the trustee promptly regarding any discrepancies.
9. Be available to respond to the debtor's questions throughout the term of the plan.
10. Prepare, file, and serve timely modifications to the plan after confirmation, when necessary, including modifications to suspend, lower, or increase plan payments.
11. Prepare, file, and serve necessary motions to buy or sell property and to incur debt.
12. Object to improper or invalid claims.
13. Timely respond to the Chapter 13 trustee's motions to dismiss the case, such as for payment default, or unfeasibility, and to motions to increase the percentage payment to unsecured creditors.
14. Timely respond to motions for relief from stay.
15. Prepare, file, and serve all appropriate motions to avoid liens.
16. Provide any other legal services necessary for the administration of the case.

C. TERMINATION OR CONVERSION OF THE CASE AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER APPROVING FEES AND EXPENSES

1. Approved fees and expenses paid under the provisions set out below are generally not refundable in the event that the case is dismissed prior to its completion, unless the dismissal is due to a failure by the attorney to comply with the duties set out in this agreement. If such a dismissal is due to a failure by the attorney, the court may order a refund of fees on motion by the debtor.
2. If the case is dismissed after approval of the fees and expenses but before payment of all allowed fees and expenses, the order entered by the Bankruptcy Court allowing the fees and expenses is not a judgment against the debtor for the unpaid fees and expenses based on contract law or otherwise.
3. If the case is converted to a case under chapter 7 after approval of the fees and expenses under this agreement but before the payment of all fees and expenses, the attorney will be entitled to an administrative claim in the chapter 7 case for any unpaid fees and expenses, pursuant to section 726(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, plus any conversion fee the attorney pays on behalf of the debtor.

D. RETAINERS AND PREVIOUS PAYMENTS

1. The attorney may receive a retainer or other payment before filing the case but may not receive fees directly from the debtor after the filing of the case. Unless the following provision is checked and completed, any retainer received by the attorney will be treated as a security retainer, to be placed in the attorney's client trust account until approval of a fee application by the court.

The attorney seeks to have the retainer received by the attorney treated as an advance payment retainer, which allows the attorney to take the retainer into income immediately. The attorney hereby provides the following further information and representations:

- (a) The special purpose for the advance payment retainer and why it is advantageous to the debtor is as follows: Debtor(s) are paying a fixed, flat fee of \$4,000 plus expenses for the legal services rendered in the Chapter 13 bankruptcy case. The length of representation is set for a fixed period with defined tasks. An advanced payment retainer is advantageous for Debtor(s) because it protects funds that could otherwise be lost to creditors.
- (b) The retainer will not be held in a client trust account and will become property of the attorney upon payment and will be deposited into the attorney's general account;
- (c) The retainer is a flat fee for the services to be rendered during the chapter 13 case and will be applied for such services without the need for the attorney to keep detailed hourly time records for the specific services performed for the debtor;
- (d) Any portion of the retainer that is not earned or required for expenses will be refunded to the client; and
- (e) The attorney is unwilling to represent the debtor without receiving an advanced payment retainer because of the nature of the chapter 13 case, the fact that the great majority of services for such case are performed prior to its filing, and the risks associated with the representation of debtors in bankruptcy cases in general.

2. In any application for compensation the attorney must disclose to the court any fees or other compensation paid by the debtor to the attorney for any reason within the one year before the case filing.

E. CONDUCT AND DISCHARGE

1. *Improper conduct by the attorney.* If the debtor disputes the sufficiency or quality of the legal services provided or the amount of the fees charged by the attorney, the debtor may file an objection with the court and request a hearing.

2. *Improper conduct by the debtor.* If the attorney believes that the debtor is not complying with the debtor's responsibilities under this agreement or is otherwise not engaging in improper conduct, the attorney may apply for a court order allowing the attorney to withdraw from the case.

3. *Discharge of the attorney.* The debtor may discharge the attorney at any time.

F. ALLOWANCE AND PAYMENT OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES

1. Any attorney retained to represent a debtor in a Chapter 13 case is responsible for representing the debtor on all matters arising in the case unless otherwise ordered by the court. For all of the services outlined above, the attorney will be paid a fee of \$4,000.
2. In addition, the debtor will pay the filing fee required in the case of \$310.
3. Before signing this agreement, the attorney has received \$1,500 toward the flat fee, leaving a balance due of \$2,500; and \$0 for expenses, leaving a balance due for the filing fee of \$310.
4. In extraordinary circumstances, such as extended evidentiary hearings or appeals, the attorney may apply to the court for additional compensation for these services. Any such application must be accompanied by an itemization of the services rendered, showing the date, the time expended, and the identity of the attorney performing the services. The debtor must be served with a copy of the application and notified of the right to appear in court to object.

Date: May 18, 2015

Signed:

(X) William Schmidtke

(X)

s/s Michael N. Oreluk

Michael N. Oreluk, Associate
Attorney for Debtor(s)

(X)

Debtor(s)
Do not sign this agreement if the amounts are blank.

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**NOTICE TO CONSUMER DEBTOR(S) UNDER § 342(b)
OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE**

In accordance with § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, this notice to individuals with primarily consumer debts: (1) Describes briefly the services available from credit counseling services; (2) Describes briefly the purposes, benefits and costs of the four types of bankruptcy proceedings you may commence; and (3) Informs you about bankruptcy crimes and notifies you that the Attorney General may examine all information you supply in connection with a bankruptcy case.

You are cautioned that bankruptcy law is complicated and not easily described. Thus, you may wish to seek the advice of an attorney to learn of your rights and responsibilities should you decide to file a petition. Court employees cannot give you legal advice.

Notices from the bankruptcy court are sent to the mailing address you list on your bankruptcy petition. In order to ensure that you receive information about events concerning your case, Bankruptcy Rule 4002 requires that you notify the court of any changes in your address. If you are filing a **joint case** (a single bankruptcy case for two individuals married to each other), and each spouse lists the same mailing address on the bankruptcy petition, you and your spouse will generally receive a single copy of each notice mailed from the bankruptcy court in a jointly-addressed envelope, unless you file a statement with the court requesting that each spouse receive a separate copy of all notices.

1. Services Available from Credit Counseling Agencies

With limited exceptions, § 109(h) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that all individual debtors who file for bankruptcy relief on or after October 17, 2005, receive a briefing that outlines the available opportunities for credit counseling and provides assistance in performing a budget analysis. The briefing must be given within 180 days before the bankruptcy filing. The briefing may be provided individually or in a group (including briefings conducted by telephone or on the Internet) and must be provided by a nonprofit budget and credit counseling agency approved by the United States trustee or bankruptcy administrator. The clerk of the bankruptcy court has a list that you may consult of the approved budget and credit counseling agencies. Each debtor in a joint case must complete the briefing.

In addition, after filing a bankruptcy case, an individual debtor generally must complete a financial management instructional course before he or she can receive a discharge. The clerk also has a list of approved financial management instructional courses. Each debtor in a joint case must complete the course.

2. The Four Chapters of the Bankruptcy Code Available to Individual Consumer Debtors

Chapter 7: Liquidation (\$245 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee, \$15 trustee surcharge: Total Fee \$335)

Chapter 7 is designed for debtors in financial difficulty who do not have the ability to pay their existing debts. Debtors whose debts are primarily consumer debts are subject to a "means test" designed to determine whether the case should be permitted to proceed under chapter 7. If your income is greater than the median income for your state of residence and family size, in some cases, the United States trustee (or bankruptcy administrator), the trustee, or creditors have the right to file a motion requesting that the court dismiss your case under § 707(b) of the Code. It is up to the court to decide whether the case should be dismissed.

Under chapter 7, you may claim certain of your property as exempt under governing law. A trustee may have the right to take possession of and sell the remaining property that is not exempt and use the sale proceeds to pay your creditors.

The purpose of filing a chapter 7 case is to obtain a discharge of your existing debts. If, however, you are found to have committed certain kinds of improper conduct described in the Bankruptcy Code, the court may deny your discharge and, if it does, the purpose for which you filed the bankruptcy petition will be defeated.

Even if you receive a general discharge, some particular debts are not discharged under the law. Therefore, you may still be responsible for most taxes and student loans; debts incurred to pay nondischargeable taxes; domestic support and property settlement obligations; most fines, penalties, forfeitures, and criminal restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; and debts for death or personal injury caused by operating a motor vehicle, vessel, or aircraft while intoxicated from alcohol or drugs. Also, if a creditor can prove that a debt arose from fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, or theft, or from a willful and malicious injury, the bankruptcy court may determine that the debt is not discharged.

Chapter 13: Repayment of All or Part of the Debts of an Individual with Regular Income (\$235 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee: Total Fee \$310)

Chapter 13 is designed for individuals with regular income who would like to pay all or part of their debts in installments over

a period of time. You are only eligible for chapter 13 if your debts do not exceed certain dollar amounts set forth in the Bankruptcy Code.

Under chapter 13, you must file with the court a plan to repay your creditors all or part of the money that you owe them, using your future earnings. The period allowed by the court to repay your debts may be three years or five years, depending upon your income and other factors. The court must approve your plan before it can take effect.

After completing the payments under your plan, your debts are generally discharged except for domestic support obligations; most student loans; certain taxes; most criminal fines and restitution obligations; certain debts which are not properly listed in your bankruptcy papers; certain debts for acts that caused death or personal injury; and certain long term secured obligations.

Chapter 11: Reorganization (\$1,167 filing fee, \$550 administrative fee: Total Fee \$1,717)

Chapter 11 is designed for the reorganization of a business but is also available to consumer debtors. Its provisions are quite complicated, and any decision by an individual to file a chapter 11 petition should be reviewed with an attorney.

Chapter 12: Family Farmer or Fisherman (\$200 filing fee, \$75 administrative fee: Total Fee \$275)

Chapter 12 is designed to permit family farmers and fishermen to repay their debts over a period of time from future earnings and is similar to chapter 13. The eligibility requirements are restrictive, limiting its use to those whose income arises primarily from a family-owned farm or commercial fishing operation.

3. Bankruptcy Crimes and Availability of Bankruptcy Papers to Law Enforcement Officials

A person who knowingly and fraudulently conceals assets or makes a false oath or statement under penalty of perjury, either orally or in writing, in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to a fine, imprisonment, or both. All information supplied by a debtor in connection with a bankruptcy case is subject to examination by the Attorney General acting through the Office of the United States Trustee, the Office of the United States Attorney, and other components and employees of the Department of Justice.

WARNING: Section 521(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that you promptly file detailed information regarding your creditors, assets, liabilities, income, expenses and general financial condition. Your bankruptcy case may be dismissed if this information is not filed with the court within the time deadlines set by the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the local rules of the court. The documents and the deadlines for filing them are listed on Form B200, which is posted at http://www.uscourts.gov/bkforms/bankruptcy_forms.html#procedure.

B 201B (Form 201B) (12/09)

**United States Bankruptcy Court
Northern District of Illinois**

In re William Schmidtke

Debtor(s)

Case No.

Chapter 13

**CERTIFICATION OF NOTICE TO CONSUMER DEBTOR(S)
UNDER § 342(b) OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE**

Certification of Debtor

I (We), the debtor(s), affirm that I (we) have received and read the attached notice, as required by § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

William Schmidtke

Printed Name(s) of Debtor(s)

Case No. (if known) _____

/s/ William Schmidtke

Signature of Debtor

May 18, 2015

Date

X

Signature of Joint Debtor (if any)

Date

Instructions: Attach a copy of Form B 201 A, Notice to Consumer Debtor(s) Under § 342(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Use this form to certify that the debtor has received the notice required by 11 U.S.C. § 342(b) **only** if the certification has **NOT** been made on the Voluntary Petition, Official Form B1. Exhibit B on page 2 of Form B1 contains a certification by the debtor's attorney that the attorney has given the notice to the debtor. The Declarations made by debtors and bankruptcy petition preparers on page 3 of Form B1 also include this certification.

**United States Bankruptcy Court
Northern District of Illinois**

In re William Schmidtke

Debtor(s)

Case No.

Chapter 13

VERIFICATION OF CREDITOR MATRIX

Number of Creditors: 25

The above-named Debtor(s) hereby verifies that the list of creditors is true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge.

Date: May 18, 2015

/s/ William Schmidtke

William Schmidtke

Signature of Debtor

Courtney A. Morso, Associate
Schaller Law Firm, P.C.
Oak Brook Pointe
700 Commerce Drive, Suite 500
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Cbna
133200 Smith Rd
Cleveland, OH 44130

Mbb
1460 Renaissance Dr
Park Ridge, IL 60068

William Schmidtke
17959 Ashland Ave
Homewood, IL 60430

Credit Coll
Po Box 9134
Needham, MA 02494

Merrick Bank
Po Box 9201
Old Bethpage, NY 11804

Amc Mortgage Services
Po Box 11000
Santa Ana, CA 92711

Creditors Discount & A
415 E Main St
Streator, IL 61364

Midland Funding
8875 Aero Dr Ste 200
San Diego, CA 92123

Bankruptcy Notices
c/o Robert Schaller
700 Commerce Drive, #500
Oak Brook, IL 60523

Fed Loan Serv
Po Box 60610
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Syncb/Amazon
Po Box 965015
Orlando, FL 32896

Bk Of Amer
1800 Tapo Canyon Rd
Simi Valley, CA 93063

I C System Inc
Po Box 64378
Saint Paul, MN 55164

Syncb/Paypal Smart Con
Po Box 965005
Orlando, FL 32896

Cap One
26525 N Riverwoods Blvd
Mettawa, IL 60045

Illinois Collection Se
8231 185th St Ste 100
Tinley Park, IL 60487

Td Auto Finance
Po Box 9223
Farmington Hills, MI 48333

Capital One Bank Usa N
15000 Capital One Dr
Richmond, VA 23238

Illinois Department of Revenue
Bankruptcy Section, Level 7-400
100 W. Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601

US Trustee's Office. VIA ECF
219 S. Dearborn Street, Suite 800
Chicago, IL 60604

Carrington Mortgage
c/o Bruce Rose, CEO
1610 E. St. Andrews Pl.
Santa Ana, CA 92705

Internal Revenue Service
PO BOX 7346
Philadelphia, PA 19101-7346

Carrington Mortgage
c/o Randall S. Miller & Associates
120 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 1140
Chicago, IL 60602

Mazda Amer Cr
9009 Caruthers Pkwy
Franklin, TN 37067